

because Coryea neither discloses nor suggests a “graphic user interface being operative to display scalable alphanumeric and graphical objects”, as recited in amended claim 1.

The present invention claims a revenue meter that includes a graphic user interface that provides scalable alphanumeric and graphical objects. Graphical objects include scalable text, lines, circles, rectangles and charts. See, e.g., Specification page 11, lines 15-24. Thus, the displayed numbers, letters and objects can be scaled to different sizes even after being manufactured, and are not limited to a predetermined size.

Conversely, Coryea et al. does not disclose or suggest scalable alphanumeric and graphical objects. Indeed, an operating manual published in December 2000 by the assignee of Coryea et al., General Electrics, and cited herewith in an accompanying Information Disclosure Statement, describes a later version of the meter disclosed in Coryea et al. The meter described in the operating manual used a fixed size for the numbers, letters and objects. See e.g. operating manual pp. 2-13 through 2-15.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. Moreover, claim 20 depends from claim 1 and therefore includes all of the features of claim 1 plus additional features. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above regarding claim 1, Applicants request that the rejection to claim 20 also be withdrawn.

Claims 2-19 and 21-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coryea et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because Coryea et al. neither discloses nor suggest scalable graphical objected as recited by the amended claims.

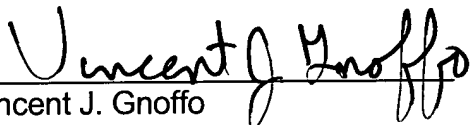
Claims 1 as amended recites “scalable alphanumeric and graphical objects” and claim 23 as amended recited “scalable graphical objects”, which are not disclosed or suggested by Coryea et al., as discussed above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 1 and 23 be withdrawn. Moreover, claims 2-19 and 21-22 and 32 depend from claim 1 and claims 24-31 and 33 depend from claim 23. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above for claims 1 and 23 the rejection of these claims should also be withdrawn.

In addition, regarding claim 19, Coryea et al. neither discloses nor suggests an alignment means comprising a compression plate with a locating portion. Therefore, for at least this additional reason the rejection to claim 19 should be withdrawn.

The body of the Office Action is silent as to claims 32 and 33. Since Coryea et al. neither discloses nor suggests "the graphic user interface displays at least one of a scalable text, a rectangle and a chart", for at least this additional reason the rejection to claims 32 and 33 should be withdrawn.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number if there are any outstanding issues that could be resolved through a telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,


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Appendix A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A revenue meter for measuring the delivery of electrical energy from an energy supplier to a consumer through an electric circuit, the revenue meter comprising:

a graphic user interface connected with the revenue meter, said graphic user interface being operative to display scalable alphanumeric and graphical objects;

a meter cover operative to enclose the revenue meter and said graphic user interface; and

a context adaptable input device located on said meter cover and connected with the revenue meter, said context adaptable input device being operative to interact with said graphic user interface without removing said meter cover.

23. (Amended) A revenue meter for measuring the delivery of electrical energy from an energy supplier to a consumer through an electric circuit, the revenue meter comprising:

a graphic user interface connected with the revenue meter, said graphic user interface operative to display scalable graphical objects;

a meter cover operative to enclose the revenue meter and said graphic user interface; and

a keypad located on said meter cover and connected with the revenue meter, said keypad being operative to interact with said graphic user interface without removing said meter cover.